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C L A I M S

1. Management system for managing distributed resources (11-16;61-66) comprising a workflow engine (8;88) that can execute management workflows in order to actively control the distributed resources (11-16;61-66),

characterized in that autonomic Correlation Services (74-76) are introduced that manage different functional parts of the managed system in cooperation with the workflow engine (88), whereby each Correlation Service (74-76) employs a Correlation Engine (174,175) and a set of rules (184,185,186) that describe how underlying resources (61-66) shall be managed, whereby a controller (44) communicates with the Correlation Services (74-76).

2. Management system according to claim 1,
characterized in that the Correlation Services (74-76) directly (92) communicate with resources (61-66).

3. Management system according to claim 1,
characterized in that rules for filtering low-level events issued by resources (61-66) are deployed into an Event Service Application (50) that is used to filter high-level events out of low-level events.

4. Management system according to claim 3,
characterized in that the controller (44) communicates with the Event Service Application (50).

5. Management system according to claim 1,
characterized in that the Correlation Services (74-76) are modeled as Stateful Web Services.

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6. Method for managing distributed resources,
characterized in that

- a) a user defines a Correlation Model comprising the definitions of several Correlation Services for different functional parts of the managed system;
- b) the controller instantiates Correlation Services (74-76) as running Stateful Web Services in accordance with the definitions of the Correlation Model.

7. Method according to claim 6,
characterized in that handles to all of the resources managed by a Correlation Service (74-76), are stored within that Correlation Service.

8. Method according to claim 6,
characterized in that high-level events a specific Correlation Service (74-76) shall react on are defined, and in that the respective Correlation Service (74-76) creates subscriptions with an Event Service (50) in order to be notified when such events are detected.

9. Method according to claim 6,
characterized in that higher-level Correlation Services use Web Service introspection to see, which events are issued by another Correlation Service (75,76).

10. Method according to claim 6,
characterized in that the Correlation Services (74-76) trigger the execution of workflows in order to actively manage their resources (61-66).

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11. Computer program product stored in the internal memory of a digital computer, containing parts of software code to execute the method in accordance with claims 6 to 10.